

The Hong Kong Telegraph.

No. 97.]

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 1881.

[PRICE—\$16 PER ANNUM.]

Shipping.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

Taking through Cargo for Queensland Ports and New Zealand.

THE EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S STEAMER "CATTERTHUN,"

will be despatched as above on or about the 18th October.

For Freight or Passage apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1881.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE 100 A1 British Steamship "CASCAPEDIA," W. A. Fraser, Master, will load for the above port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, or Passage apply to RUSSELL & Co. Hongkong, September 26th, 1881.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

GOODS received on STORAGE, at the Blue Building Godowns, Marine Lot 65, Prater East, and advances made on the receipt.

J. M. GUEDES, Jun. Hongkong, 3rd October, 1881.

TO LET,

Immediate Possession,

TOP FLOOR of No. 3, Queen's Road Central (above Mr. Noble's).

J. M. GUEDES, Jun. Hongkong, 3rd October, 1881.

G. FALCONER & Co.,

WATCH AND CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS

AND JEWELLERS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS AND BOOKS. No. 46, QUEEN'S-ROAD CENTRAL.

Chs. J. GAUPP & Co.

CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK-MAKERS,

Jewellers, Silver-smiths, and Opticians.

Charts and Books.

Nautical Instruments.

Sole Agents

for *Louis Audemars' Watches*; awarded the highest Prizes at every Exhibition;

and for *Voigtlander and Sohn's Celebrated Opera Glasses*, MARINE GLASSES, and SPYGLASSES No. 38, Queen's-road Central.

D. K. GRIFFITH & Co. MANUFACTURERS OF THE LONDON AERATED WATERS, AND GENERAL AGENTS. 7, Beaconsfield Arcade.

William Schmidt & Co. GUNMAKERS, &c. BEACONSFIELD ARCADE.

Arms, Ammunitions, and Requisites of every description.

Arms Repaired, Cleaned, or Converted at moderate charges.

Sporting Guns and Ammunition always on hand.

STAG HOTEL.

QUEEN'S-ROAD CENTRAL. Good accommodation for Visitors, English & American Billiards, Tiffin at One o'clock. Dinner at 7.30.

This Hotel is most centrally situated and within easy distance of the principal landing places.

J. COOK, Proprietor.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on

SATURDAY,

The 8th instant, at Noon, on board the Steamer now lying off Yow-Ma-Ti, the Hull, Sheathing Metal, and Boilers of the steamer "KINSIAN" in one lot.

Also a lot of OLD MACHINERY ex steamer *Payung*, which can be seen in the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company's Godown at Wanchai.

Terms:—Cash on the fall of the hammer. The lots to be at Purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.

A steam launch will convey intending purchasers from the Company's Wharf to the Steamer at 11.45 a.m. on the day of Sale.

H. N. MODY, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 1st October, 1881.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

I have this day established myself as Merchant and General Commission Agent, under the style of W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.

W. G. HUMPHREYS. Bank Buildings, Hongkong, 1st October, 1881.

Afong, Photographer,

HAS A LARGER COLLECTION of VIEWS than any other in CHINA.

Miniatures Painted on Ivory from \$7.

Oil Paintings on Canvas from \$5.

Cartes de Visite, Cabinet, and all other Styles of Portraits at equally moderate prices executed under the supervision and management of

D. K. GRIFFITHS, Studio 8, Queen's-road. HONGKONG TIMBER YARD, WANCHAI.

OREGON PINE SPARS AND LUMBER always on hand.

L. MALLORY, Proprietor. Hongkong, 24th June, 1881.

T. ALGAR AND COMPANY, HOUSE AND ESTATE AGENTS. RENTS COLLECTED.

BROWN, JONES & Co., UNDERTAKERS. MOURNING STATIONERY, &c. MONUMENTS ERECTED. 9, HOLLYWOOD ROAD. FOR SALE CHEAP.

A First Class PONY PHAETON by Lenny of Croydon. Apply to

M. A. The "Hongkong Telegraph" office. Hongkong, 24th June, 1881.

A. MILLAR & Co., PLUMBERS, GASFITTERS, COPPERSMITHS, AND BRASS-FOUNDERS, OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE FLETCHER'S BUILDINGS, QUEEN'S-ROAD EAST. WORKS—SPRING GARDENS, WANCHAI.

J. ULLMANN & Co.,

42, QUEEN'S-ROAD, CENTRAL, 42.

Importers of WATCHES, CLOCKS, MUSICAL BOXES, MARINE and EYE GLASSES, in great varieties, and General Goods. N.B.—Watches carefully repaired at moderate rates.

Intimations.



SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Undersigned on or before MONDAY, the 24th instant, at Noon, for the building of a TORPEDO MOORING STEAMER and a WOODEN TORPEDO LIGHTER (including machinery), according to Specifications and Conditions, which can be seen on application to the Naval Storekeeper's Office.

The Naval Storekeeper reserves to himself the right to reject the lowest or any Tender.

E. B. JOREY, Naval Storekeeper. H.M. Naval Yard, Hongkong. 3rd October, 1881.

V. R.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION. No. 219.

SALE OF THE OPIUM FARM.

Notice is hereby given, that TENDERS for the PRIVILEGE of PREPARING and SELLING PREPARED OPIUM within the Colony for the term of ONE, TWO, or THREE YEARS from the 1st of March, 1882, under the provisions of Ordinance No. 2 of 1853, No. 1 of 1859, and No. 7 of 1870, will be received at this Office until Noon on MONDAY, the 24th October, 1881.

Each Tender should specify the monthly payment offered for the period above-mentioned.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any Tender.

Should the highest Tender be less than the sum the Governor thinks a fair price for the Opium Farm, His Excellency in Council will grant Licences direct under Section 3 of the Ordinance, and take such further steps as may be necessary to realize a fair price.

By His Excellency's Command, M. S. TONNOCHY, Acting Colonial Secretary. Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 20th August, 1881.

RECORD OF AMERICAN and FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Agents, ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co. Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

THE Undersigned have been appointed AGENTS to the NEW YORK BOARD of UNDERWRITERS.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co. Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

LE CERCLE-TRANSPORTS.

SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME D'ASSURANCE MARITIME MARSEILLE.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....15,000,000 Francs. CAPITAL PAID-UP..... 3,750,000 Francs.

The Undersigned, having been appointed AGENTS of the above Company, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES on MARINE RISKS to all parts of the World.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co. Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

J. AND R. TENNENT'S ALE and PORTER.

DAVID CORRAR & SONS' Merchant Navy } Navy Boiled } CANVAS. Long Flax } Crown }

ARNHOLD KARBERG & Co. Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

C. L. THEVENIN.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT, AND COMMISSION AGENT. HONGKONG HOTEL BUILDING, QUEEN'S-ROAD CENTRAL.

For Sale.

SAYLE & CO.'S SHOWROOMS.

Autumn and Winter Fashions.

SAYLE & Co. will make their

FIRST SHOW ON TUESDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 4TH, and following days.

Parisian and English Novelties in all Departments.

Dresses, Hosiery, Ribbons, Laces, Hats, Kid Gloves, Millinery, Mantles, Satins, Silks, French and English Boots and Shoes, &c., &c.

N.B.—The DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT is now in full working order, under competent EUROPEAN SUPERVISION.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1881.

KELLY & WALSH'S

CHEAP AND LIGHT LITERATURE.

New Tauchnitz Volumes.

The Black Robe, by Wilkie Collins. Mary Marston, by Geo. Macdonald. From the Wings, by B. H. Barton. A Confidential Agent, by Jas. Payn. He that will not when he may, by Mrs. Oliphant. Asphodel, by Miss Braddon.

Second Thoughts, by Rhoda Broughton. Countess of Bonneval, by Lady F. Lorton. The Hunters at Launin' Head, by Mrs. Lynn Linton. Dr. Wortle's School, by A. Trollope.

New Novels at 75 cents.

Moths, by Ouida. A Tangled Skein, by the Author of Filthy Lucre. The Capel Girls, by Ed. A. Garrett. High Spirits, by James Payn. A Pink Wedding, by R. M. Jephson. Mr. Dorillon, by Jean Middlemass.

Lord Beaconsfield's Novels. Ready Money Mortiboy Series of Novels. Charles Lever's Novels. Whyte Melville's Novels. Wilkie Collins's Novels. Ouida's Novels. Miss Braddon's Novels.

Useful Hand Books, 50 cents. each.

Familiar French Quotations. Familiar Latin Quotations. Dictionary of Blunders. The Secretary's Assistant. Plutarch's Lives.

Rejected Addresses. Bible Truths with Shaksperian Parallels. Dictionary of English Proverbs. Companion Letter Writer.

Hongkong, 1st October, 1881.

ED. CHASTEL & CO.,

WINE MERCHANTS,

Marine House, 15, Queen's-road.

HAVE for sale ex recent arrivals, Light Breakfast CLARETS in quarts and pints. After Dinner CLARETS in quarts and pints.

CHATEAU LAFITE, MARGAUX, LAROSE, LEOVILLE CLOS DE MAURIN, &c. &c.

De St. Marceaux & Co's CHAMPAGNE in quarts, pints and half-pints. CLARET in WOOD.

CHARTREUSE, CURAÇOA, MARASCHINO.

Price list on application.

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT TO H.E. THE GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG,

AND TO

H.I.H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS OF RUSSIA.

T. N. DRISCOLL,

TAILOR, HOSIER, HATTER, AND GENERAL OUTFITTER,

No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

Next door to the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, Is now showing a large and well selected Stock of Black and Blue BROADS and DOESKINS.

VENETIANS, CASSIMERES.

MELTONS, French, and West of England COATINGS.

SUITINGS, VESTINGS, and TROWSERINGS.

Black, Blue, and Brown BEAVERS.

ELYSIANS. French WITNEYS.

NAPS and PILOTS for OVERCOATINGS.

Irish FRIEZES for ULSTERS, in all the leading Colours.

The Outfitting Department is well assorted in everything requisite for the coming Season.

All Orders executed promptly, a PERFECT FIT guaranteed.

A. S. WATSON & Co.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
DRUGGISTS,
GENERAL CHEMISTS,
AND
Manufacturers of the following
AERATED WATERS, viz:
SODA, TONIC, SARSAPARILLA,
AND POTASH, LEMONADE,
GINGERADE, RASPBERRYADE,
AND PHOSPHORIC CHAMPAGNE.

Deliveries in Town and Harbour from
7 A.M. to 7 P.M.

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

Prompt Attention given to Coast
Orders.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
HONGKONG.
SHANGHAI PHARMACY.
SHANGHAI.
CANTON DISPENSARY.
CANTON.
THE DISPENSARY,
FOOCHOW.

Notices to Subscribers.

All communications should be addressed The
Editor "Hongkong Telegraph," 15, Wellington
Street.

All letters for publication must be written on one
side of the paper only.

Correspondents are requested to forward their
names and addresses with all communications in-
tended for insertion, not necessarily for publication,
but as evidence of good faith.

Notices to Correspondents.

Subscribers who do not receive their newspapers
within thirty-five minutes after the time of publica-
tion will oblige by communicating with the Editor.

Domestic Notices, if properly authenticated, will
be inserted free of charge.

Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not
ordered for a fixed period will be continued until
countermanded.

THE Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, 5TH OCTOBER, 1881.

MR. P. DOYLE, Civil Engineer, who
has recently arrived in the Colony,
has favoured us with the following
communication upon the proposed
Hongkong Observatory, which we
have much pleasure in reproducing
for the benefit of our readers. We
do not, of course, necessarily endorse
Mr. Doyle's views, but merely submit
them, in the public interest, as the
opinions of a practical man, who has
had a good deal of experience of the
matters dealt with.

In the early part of January last,
Mr. Whipple, Superintendent, Kew
Observatory, circulated the interest-
ing fact, of world-wide importance,
that the Kew Committee of the Royal
Society of London having memorialised
the Secretary of State for the
Colonies with reference to the
establishment of an Observatory for
meteorological and magnetic pur-
poses at Hongkong, was gratified by
the receipt of a favourable reply to
the effect that the Governor of Hong-
kong was authorised to propose a
vote for the establishment of an Ob-
servatory in that Colony. The memo-
rial adverted to, although sub-
mitted as far back as 1879, was,
however, anticipated by Governor
Hennessy, who, in the very first year
of his administration—two years be-
fore the Kew Committee moved in
the matter—made a provision in the
Colonial Estimates for 1877-78 for
both an Observatory and a Time
Ball. The vote of \$5,000, then
granted, apparently lapsed, but only
to be renewed and doubled during the
current official year. The present
proposal takes the form of a more
elaborate scheme, going far beyond
the original scope, intending to em-
brace Astronomical, Meteorological,
and Magnetic Observations, as well
as investigations in other branches of
physical research—in fact, to use
Sir John Pope Hennessy's words,
"the establishment of a general
scientific observatory."

It was fortunate for the Colony,
and beneficial to the interests of
science, that the advice of Major
Palmer, R.E., was available upon
the subject, and freely placed at the
disposal of the authorities of the

Colony by that gentleman. It is al-
most superfluous to add that no one
better could have been found out
here to afford the information need-
ed—Major Palmer's high repute as
a scientist being supplemented by a
local knowledge of the country, ac-
quired from residence. Major Pal-
mer's report on the project, in com-
pliance with a requisition from the
Government, deals with the subject
of the three chief objects of the Ob-
servatory—Astronomy, Meteorology,
and Magnetism—separately, and in
the order mentioned. A few remarks
on Tidal Observations, and details of
the financial aspects of the question,
as regards prime cost and main-
tenance, complete his lucid and ex-
haustive report. It is, perhaps, a
trifle too discursive at times—drift-
ing into what would, *prima facie*,
appear uncalled for channels, as
may be instanced in the methods
given for obtaining difference in
longitude, fixing a meridian mark,
and laying out the building, or the
explanation of cause and effect re
Time Balls—thus approaching in
tone and style to some of the recent
works on elementary practical astro-
nomy with which the world is being
inundated. The impression that
might be created on some minds by
these and similar items would, per-
haps, be far from complimentary to
the attainments of those likely to be
employed on or connected with the
scheme from its earliest stage to sub-
sequent working. But, in justice to
Major Palmer, it may be well stated
that, as far as we can perceive, the
substance of the document under
comment, was not drawn up for pro-
fessional or scientific men. Its main
purpose, apparently, is to place with-
in reach of "all" information on
certain subjects not readily acces-
sible, and this intention disarms any
resentment that may have arisen
from misconception of the aim held
in view throughout its composition.

These strictures are, however, to use
an Hibernicism, on a "good fault."
Major Palmer is a philosophical
enthusiast; and we are constrained
to record our apprehensions that his
suggestions, despite their scientific
merit, are too ambitious for the re-
sources of so small a Colony as
Hongkong, where nothing in the
same line has ever been attempted
before, and they are not quite adapt-
ed to the immediate practical wants
of the day. The higher refinements
of, and abstruse investigations in,
solar and terrestrial physics must give
way to simpler means of recognised
"utility"—otherwise expectations
may—to say the least—meet with
disappointment, and the result
may be different from that origi-
nally intended. In attempting too
much we may accomplish very little;
and, doubtless, no one in Hongkong
better understands than Major Pal-
mer himself that, mathematically,
negative advancement is worse than
nothing. He naturally gives undue
prominence to the science for which
he has a well-known predilection, and
in the walks of which he has earned a
well-deserved reputation.

We regret that Meteorology should
have been relegated to quite a second-
ary position in the Report. Consi-
dering the wide-spread and divers
interests related to this important
branch of physical science—its bear-
ing upon health, influence on agri-
culture, and importance to the ship-
ping interests of the world at large,
it should certainly have taken pre-
cedence (in the Report) from the in-
disputable stand-point of its known
practical value. This is acknow-
ledged by the procedure of the Go-
vernment Meteorological Office at
Home in reference to the issuing of
forecasts of the weather gratis to all
newspapers. That in doing so it
meets a want may be verified from the
previous action of the same Office in
maintaining an evening telegraphic
service, at the expense, and for the
exclusive benefit of, three subscribing
newspapers, the *Times*, *Standard* and
Daily News, for regularly supplying
them with forecasts for their respec-

tive morning issues—their subscrip-
tion for the same being at one period
as much as to £300 (each) per annum.

The measures and appliances ordi-
narily required for the purposes
stated of this branch of physical
inquiry—acrostical physics—are
neither as difficult nor intricate as is
commonly supposed. A communica-
tion with Mr. Blandford, Meteorolo-
gical Reporter to the Government of
India, or a reference to his *Vade
Mecum*, would have furnished the
desiderata. We might reasonably
moderate our requirements in the
earlier stages of the project and rest
satisfied, *pro tem*, with the system of
observing, registering, reducing, and
comparing in operation in Calcutta,
from which Mr. John Elliot (Second
Wrangler and Smith's prizeman,
Cambridge,) is able to produce and
give those forecasts of the weather
and storm warnings that prove such
an invaluable boon to mariners in,
round, and about the Bay of Bengal.
In fact, when we have advanced so
far as the collection and compilation
of such data as those from which Mr.
Elliot (who is the Meteorological
Reporter to the Government of Ben-
gal) evolved the most complete and
masterly investigation extant of the
controlling forces which govern a
cyclone in the Indian Ocean, there
would be much cause for congratula-
tion, and, doubtless, more suitable
ways and means at command for ex-
tending or developing further inves-
tigation into the cycle of celestial ob-
jects. It is pretty generally under-
stood that the objects of an Observa-
tory are not attained by the mere
notation of certain facts and figures,
which is only a preliminary stage or
medium to the end to discover the
mysteries of nature and trace out the
intricacies of the combinations of her
elements. Before utilising the re-
cords of an Observatory, they have
to be reduced by principle and in
order, involving an expenditure of
time and labor not always procurable
when they embrace both quantity and
variety. Poggendorff's long series of care-
fully recorded astronomical observa-
tions, taken at Madras, are lying
useless for the requisite agency for
reducing them; and the difficulties
that Perry of Stonyhurst has had to
overcome in similar matters are well
known and appreciated by scientists.

In attempting to imitate the *first*
observatories in the world—those of
the Jesuits—there is a possibility of
the result being a travesty. It sa-
vours of presumption; for that won-
derful organization embodies the in-
tellect of the world; its ways are in-
scrutable and resources the highest
possible. The names of Perry in
England, Secchi in Italy, and Lafont
in India, are the best guarantee for
our assertion; and with this, space
impels us to subside. We trust that
our comments will be accepted in
good part. They have not been dic-
tated from the illiberal spirit of ca-
villing, but from the conviction that
fair discussion and healthy criticism
are conducive to much good, parti-
cularly on a subject whose import-
ance "on local as well as Imperial
grounds" is recognised by both the
Colonial and Home Governments.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

All movements in connection with
the docking and undocking of ships
are suspended owing to the continued
inclemency of the weather.

We hear from Peking that Mr. Von
Brandt, Minister for the German Em-
pire at the Chinese Court, has been se-
riously ill with asthma. Although
now much improved it is expected that
he will not be able to leave the capital
until the spring.

Private advices from Peking report
the safe arrival of His Excellency the
Governor at the Chinese capital. Al-
though the visit is a strictly private
one, the Imperial authorities are show-
ing Sir John Pope Hennessy all the
honour due to his high rank, and their
appreciation of His Excellency's con-
ciliatory policy in all matters relating
to the Chinese.

The *United Service Gazette* under-
stands that the whole of the engineer
officers and engine-room artificers of
the fleet are to go through a course of
torpedo and electrical instruction as
rapidly as possible.

We observe from our Shanghai ex-
changes that training for the Autumn
Race Meeting is now in full swing.
On receipt of programme, with full list
of entries, we may find something to
say about the national sport in the
Model Settlement.

We are glad to observe that steps
are to be taken to stop the obstruction
of business in the House of Commons,
about which so much has recently been
said and written. The Speaker, Sir
T. Escombe May, and other authorities
in the House, will, it is said, during
the recess prepare suggestions for the
improvement of the House of Com-
mons. These suggestions will be laid
before the Cabinet when they come to
consider the subject before the opening
of next session.

We note from recent home news
that an order has been prepared at
Whitehall for issue to the commanders-
in-chief on the different stations, direc-
ting that a return shall be sent home
annually, to reach the Admiralty by
Nov. 1, setting forth the ships' officers
and men that will have completed their
terms of service, and be entitled to re-
lief during the coming financial year.
This order is to be issued in conse-
quence of complaints of irregular des-
patch of reliefs.

It is reported that we are likely to
have a grand *raynischaw*, a Wimbledon
in miniature, at the Kowloon Rifle
range about the middle of November.
Subscription lists will shortly be issued,
and we doubt not that the endeavour to
provide a good day's sport at what has
become a national pastime, will meet
with liberal support from the public.
Lieutenants Charley and Young, of the
Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and Mr.
W. Dunman, are the prime movers in
the project.

We regret to hear from Mr. Ludwig
Beyer, Consul for the Netherlands at
this port, that a despatch from His Ex-
cellency the Netherlands Minister for
China, dated Peking the 20th ultimo,
was received at the Consulate this
morning conveying the sad intelligence
of the death, on the 8th September, at
10.30 p.m., of his Royal Highness
Prince Frederic of the Netherlands,
uncle of His Majesty the King, after
an illness of two days. The Nether-
lands flag will be lowered half-mast to-
morrow the 6th instant from sunrise
till sunset, to commemorate the death
of the deeply regretted Prince.

With reference to promotion in the
army, the Duke of Cambridge, in con-
currence with the Secretary of State
for War, has directed that at the exa-
mination for promotion to take place
in December next, captains who were
provisionally promoted to the rank of
major on or before July 1, 1881, or
who on that date had completed five
years' service in the rank of captain,
shall be allowed to qualify for promo-
tion by passing the examination in
tactics only, provided that before Nov.
1 next they shall have passed the exa-
mination in drill and duties as laid
down for their rank in General Order
130 of 1880.

Says the *Overland Mail*:—It is ru-
moured amongst the ranks of the war-
rant officers that the intention has
been expressed by the Admiralty of
not promoting any officer to "chief"
gunner, boatswain, or carpenter, who
is over fifty years of age. If such be
really the intention of their lordships,
a manifest injustice will be perpetrated
upon the unfortunate officers exceeding
that age. The Admiralty could, how-
ever, remedy such injustice by at once
retiring all warrant officers over fifty,
giving them a special rate of retire-
ment, on the same principle as was
practised with the civil officers retired
from the Admiralty and War Office;
for it should be borne in mind that
non-promotion to deserving officers be-
tween fifty and fifty-five years of age,
arriving at the top of their respective
lists, means deprivation of present pay
and of coming pension, and also a re-
duction in the amount of their widows'
pensions. And this to officers of long
service, who look to the rank of "chief"
as the goal of a long, faithful, and ho-
nourable service career generally ex-
ceeding thirty years.

The letter of "Fusilier" will ap-
pear to-morrow. It came late, and
space is limited.

Amongst the passengers by the
City of Peking we notice the name of
Captain Augustus Benning, of the
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steam-
boat Company, who has returned from
leave of absence.

The steamship *Flours Castle*, Captain
Thomson, which arrived here this
morning from Singapore, reports hav-
ing encountered a typhoon on Sunday
last, the 2nd inst., in lat. 14 N. long.
114 E., wind N. E. round by E. to S.
E.; lowest reading of barometer 28.10.

Rumours, apparently well founded,
have been current in the colony for
the past few days, to the effect that Sir
John Smale intends returning to the
colony on the expiration of his leave
of absence to resume his duties as
Chief Justice. It seems that Sir John's
application to the Government regard-
ing his retiring pension was not re-
ceived so favourably as he anticipated,
so he at once determined, in the old
impetuous way we know so well, to
return to the scene of his former la-
bours. We have a high regard for the
learned Chief Justice, and greatly re-
spect his undoubted abilities, but we
shall be sorry if he returns to Hong-
kong.

The most novel application of elec-
tricity announced is its utilisation for
the steering of ships. The helmsman's
days are apparently numbered, and the
quartermaster's occupation likely to be
considered a relic of antiquity—both
institutions of the past. The *modus
operandi* of the proposed change will
doubtless interest our nautical readers:
—The compass card is fitted with an
index, and when the ship deviates as
much as a single degree from her
course, the index touches a metal pin
which causes a current to flow and
actuate a hydraulic apparatus which
marks the helm. The variety and
number of purposes for which electri-
city may be applied are simply legion;
new revelations are of every day oc-
currence; and, withal, the cry is "still
they come."

By a telegram from Bombay, dated
the 12th ultimo, which appears in a
Calcutta paper, we note the death by
an attack of dysentery of Senhor Mar-
ques Pereira, Portuguese Consul-Gen-
eral for India. Senhor Pereira will be
best remembered in Hongkong as
plaintiff in the celebrated *Echo do Povo*
libel action, which resulted so disas-
trously for the late Mr. J. da Silva e
Souza. Senhor Pereira, who was Pro-
curador in Macao, was openly charged
with bribery and corruption in the
performance of his official duties, but
the charge entirely broken down so far
as he was personally concerned, and
after the trial he was honourably ac-
quitted by a private court of inquiry
which was instituted at Macao to in-
vestigate the whole circumstances of
the case. We understand that the
pecuniarios of a member of the Procu-
rator's family led to the belief that he
was also implicated. Recalled from
Macao by the Portuguese Government,
Senhor Pereira returned to Lisbon,
where he obtained some celebrity both
in political and literary circles. Owing
it is said, to family differences he ac-
cepted a colonial appointment as Con-
sul-General to Siam, from which place
he was promoted to India only a few
months back. Senhor Pereira's un-
timely death is a great loss to his
country.

CASUALTY TO THE STEAMER "JAPAN."

The "large staff of experienced short
hand reporters" have been at it again.
That estimable and ultra-correct jour-
nal the *China Mail* has given us
another bright example of its boasted
enterprise. In last night's issue we
read: "The *Oheang Hook Kian* put
back to-day owing to bad weather out-
side." This would have been all right
had it been in the slightest degree ac-
curate; but it happens to be a grossly
incorrect statement, which once again
demonstrates what a dangerous system
taking things for granted without in-
quiry is for a newspaper which pretends
to be reliable. We have how much
pleasure in giving our readers the ac-
tual reason why the steamer put back.
The *Oheang Hook Kian*, Captain Webb,
left the harbour on the 3rd inst. bound
for Singapore, and when about twenty

miles outside sighted a steamer flying signals of distress. On approaching nearer, the vessel was discovered to be the well-known opium steamer *Japan*, and immediate assistance was solicited, the engines having completely broken down. The sea was running "mountains high," but communication between the two vessels was established by the aid of boys, and arrangements made for the *Chuang Hock Kian* to tow the disabled steamer to Hongkong. After an immense deal of difficulty the *Japan* was safely taken in tow, but the tow rope used, a three inch steel hawser, immediately parted, being unable to stand the heavy strain caused by the tremendous sea. As nothing else could be done, Captain Gardiner requested Capt. Webb to return to Hongkong and arrange with Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons, & Co. about procuring hawsers and towing the *Japan* to port. The *Chuang Hock Kian* accordingly steamed back to Hongkong, arriving here yesterday afternoon, giving both of our contemporaries ample time and opportunity to obtain full particulars if they had cared to display the energy and enterprise recently so much talked about and to which they make such great pretensions. Arrangements have now been satisfactorily completed, and as we pen these lines the *Chuang Hock Kian* is getting up steam to proceed to the disabled vessel. The *Japan* is lying about 20 miles from Hongkong, among the islands in eight fathoms of water, her actual position being some five or six miles North of the island of Aichow.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The Pacific Mail steamer *City of Peking* from San Francisco on 6th ult., and Yokohama 29th, arrived here this morning. The following telegrams are taken from California exchanges:—

Paris, Aug. 31.—The expenses of the French campaign have already reached 64,000,000 francs.

One of the French columns, 1,200 strong, has arrived at Hammamet. The Arabs have surrounded the French camp, but are kept at a distance by the gunboats laying off Hammamet. These have thrown sixty shells among the invaders.

Tunis, August 31.—Two battalions of French troops have embarked at Goletta for the purpose of occupying Hammamet.

It is stated that General Garibaldi's column has again been attacked by a large force of Arabs at Soraki and that, the Arabs were repulsed with heavy loss.

London, Aug. 31.—At a large meeting of tenant farmers, and others, in County Down, yesterday, they expressed great satisfaction with the Land bill. Two imprisoned "suspects" were released on signing documents pledging themselves to abstain from assault or violence.

After speaking at Strabane yesterday, Parnell proceeded to Derry, where, shortly before the commencement of the proceedings Captain Beersford, Aid-de-Camp to the Duke of Aberdeen when the Duke was Viceroy of Ireland, ascended the platform and denounced the agitators. Captain Beersford was soon attacked by his listeners, and had to be rescued by the police.

New York, September 1st.—Special London cablegrams state:—The steamer *Augustus* from New York for Newcastle with a general cargo has just put into Dover roads with her bows stove in and fore compartments full of water. She had been in a collision off South Foreland with the steamer *Hector* of Liverpool. The latter is also in the roads considerably damaged.

London, September 1st.—The wine and spirit warehouse at 45, Cheapside, and the India-rubber warehouse of Coghill & Co., in Broad street, and seven other buildings in the same street were burned to-day. The loss is \$1,000,000.

Grass Valley, Sept. 1st.—An atrocious attempt at train-wrecking and robbery was made on the Central Pacific Railroad, on Wednesday night, five miles above Colfax, in Placer county. The rails were moved on the main line near Carr Horn Mills Station; the engines and several cars of the east-bound passenger train were derailed; the express car was surrounded by several men, when suddenly the robbers fled, leaving behind masks, tools, cartridges, and other evidences of their preparation to secure the treasure on the train. No passengers were injured.

It is thought that the robbers intended to wreck the west-bound train, which was known to carry a large amount of bullion. The fact that James G. Fair was a passenger on the wrecked train led to the report that the plan of the robbers included the capture of the bonanza capitalist.

Twelve men are supposed to have been engaged in the crime. A reward of \$12,000 has been offered by the Central Pacific for the capture of the criminals, and \$700 is offered for the apprehension of each of the robbers by Wells, Fargo & Co. No trace of the fugitives has been discovered,

although Placer county is alive with searching parties.

London, September 4th.—A dispatch from Constantinople says:—Lord Dufferin declares that England will never allow the Cyprus tribute to be transferred to Turkish creditors, and insists that Cyprus shall remain entirely out of the arrangement for the settlement of the Turkish debt.

Dublin, September 4th.—Bonfires were lighted over a large portion of the north of Ireland on Saturday night as a mark of gratitude to Gladstone for the Land Act.

Patrick Egan has declined to become a Parliamentary candidate for the present.

A conflict has taken place here between the police and the public, caused by some soldiers making insulting remarks about the Pope. The police fired upon some persons who were throwing stones and fifteen were wounded, some seriously.

London, September 5th.—A despatch from Calcutta to the *Times* says: The Tea Syndicate, established in 1880 for the purpose of opening up the Australian and American markets to India tea, report that their operations have been successful. The agent of the syndicate in America reports that the prospects for building up a trade with India are the most promising. There has been a plentiful rain in Mysore and the harvest prospects are much improved.

Tatta, September 5th.—On August 31st Ayesh Khan issued a proclamation declaring that he has abandoned of fighting the Ameer, and was about to fight the English. To this end he invited all persons having weapons belonging to the Government to consider them their own, on condition of their joining his standard immediately. It may be assumed that this is merely a clumsy plan to get as many rifles as possible and send them to Herat, where he continues to send as much cash as he can get.

Limerick, September 5th.—There were further riots during this morning. The soldiers who marched upon George-street were stoned. They then charged the mob, dispersing it in all directions. During the riots yesterday, there was no resident magistrate with the police, and the Riot Act was not read. The opinion is freely expressed here that the police might have kept back the mob without firing on them.

Berlin, September 5th.—A Nihilist organ, the *Will of the People*, has made its reappearance in St. Petersburg.

Berlin, September 5th.—A passage in Gambetta's speech, at Newborough, last night, in which he declared that Sedan would have been wiped out if France had had more steadfast hearts, and if virtue, patriotism, independence and disdain for material enjoyment had more largely prevailed, was loudly cheered.

Paris, September 5th.—The final returns of 64 second ballots for members of the Chamber of Deputies, shows that 56 Republicans, 3 Royalists, and 5 Bonapartists have been elected. The Republicans have gained 110 seats, 7 from the Bonapartists and 3 from the Royalists. The Republican loss is 2. The new Chamber, without counting the Colonial deputies, will comprise 459 Republicans, 47 Bonapartists and 41 Monarchists. The Republicans comprise 239 Left Centre, 148 Left, 26 Republicans Union, and 469 Extreme Left. Among the notable features in the second ballots are, Revillon "In transients" polling 5,297 votes for Belleville, against 3,599 for Lick.

Archbishop Croke and the Bishop of Ross, who are in London are about to visit Davitt. Bishop Nulty of Meath has written to Parnell, stating that, although the Land Act is incomplete, it ought to have fair trial. The Bishop advises electors in County Tyrone to reject Dickson, the Whig candidate for Member of Parliament.

London, September 4.—The Union Mail Steamship Company estimate the total loss of life by the foundering of the *Teuton* at Cape Good Hope to be 236.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 31.—It is stated that an Extraordinary Commission has been formed to consider the results of Count Czarzoff's investigation on the cause of the anti-Jewish disturbances.

In one of the German colonies, in the district of Odessa, they had a public meeting, and those present signed a proposition for levying a fine of fifty roubles on anybody letting lodgings to Jews.

Hamilton (Ont.), August 31st.—In the International Cricket Match, the Americans won the match by one run and by eleven wickets.

New York, Sept. 1st.—A Paris dispatch says a fire at the docks of L'Orient yesterday caused a damage estimated at 24,000 francs.

Of the 380 patients in the Chicago Poor House, 70 have typhoid fever. An investigation into the causes has begun.

A steamer left Dover yesterday to make another attempt to raise the sunken German steamer *Grosser Kurfurst*.

The dory *Little Western*, sixteen feet over all, from London, June 14th, has arrived at Halifax, and reports heavy weather.

Fifteen Socialists have been expelled from Berlin, it is supposed, for connection with the propaganda in favour of Herr Rebel's election.

Dr. Idereing, Herr Etnurshad and Herr Glocks, Germans, have arrived in Toronto, to make inquiries as to the capability of Canada for German immigrants.

The new Russian paper, entitled *The Free World*, published in German, advocates a constitutional government, and is

equally opposed to revolution and to reaction.

At the International Chess Congress on Tuesday, Blackburn, of England, played Herr Berger, of Gratz, and Herr Zuckersort played Herr Wienawer, of Berlin. Both were drawn games.

The steamer *City of Berlin*, which arrived at New York yesterday, brought \$1,274,000 in gold from England.

A London despatch states that the census of India has been completed. The returns show the population to be 252,000,000.

The defalcation in the Brooklyn, N. Y., Board of Education amounts to \$200,000.

Mr. Margaret Kane died yesterday in Williamsburg, L. I., aged 107.

Arch Duchess Marie Dementine, of Austria, aunt of Emperor Francis Joseph and widow of Leopold, Prince of Salerno, died at Chantilly yesterday at the age of 64.

The London *Globe* says: Jefferson Davis arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, from New Orleans.

J. S. Sefton, a well-known actor, died in Detroit yesterday, aged 65.

Fifteen persons were killed by the collision of a railroad train yesterday at Charenton, France, and several injured.

Naples advises state that Mount Vesuvius has been in a lively state of eruption since Saturday, sending streams of lava down the northern slope.

LATEST COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Wednesday, October 5th, 1881.

One o'clock P.M.

Indications that the long looked for move in Banks is imminent was evidenced by the inquiries after the stock yesterday afternoon. This stock has been quoted at 112 per cent. premium for some considerable time past without however leading to any noteworthy transactions. Offers were made to purchase yesterday at the quoted rate, but as this was not tempting enough the price gradually expanded and buyers were willing to deal at 114 for the end of the month. This rate would undoubtedly have been accepted a few days ago, but holders appeared to know something, and accordingly declined to sell at anything under 115. So far as we can learn, no actual transfers of importance have been made, but the stock is very firm, and we doubt not that a large business will be done in the course of the next few days. The bad weather would, strangely enough, appear to have prejudicially affected the Dock Company's shares, and they are very weak at 44, with plenty sellers, but no buyers at that rate. Sugars still hold an unsatisfactory position, offers by holders to deal at 160 per share meeting with no response. Steamboats are also under a cloud; but Hotels are very much firmer and a small business has been booked at 114, which figure fairly represents the present position of the stock in the market. Nothing further has been done in Fires, and business in other shares is quite at a standstill.

Shares.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Shares—115 per cent. premium, Sellers.

Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$1,675 per share ex dividend.

China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—\$1,600 per share.

North China Insurance Company—Tls. 1,125 per share.

Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. \$30 per share.

Chinese Insurance Company, —\$305 per share, Buyers.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company Shares—\$75 per share.

China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$285 per share, Sellers.

Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—44% premium, Sellers.

Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Company's Shares—\$25 per share premium, Sellers.

China Coast Steam Navigation Company—Tls. 162 per share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—\$85 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—\$114 per share, Sales.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$160 per share, Sellers.

China Sugar Refining Company (De-bentures)—3 per cent premium.

Hongkong Ice Company's Shares—\$127½ per share, Sellers.

Hongkong & China Bakery Company Limited—\$50 per share.

Chinese Imperial Government Loan of 1878—1½% premium, Ex Int.

Chinese Imperial Government Loan of 1881—3½% premium.

Exchange.

On LONDON,—
Bank Bills, T.T., 3/8½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight, 3/8½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight, 3/9¼
Credits, at 4 months' sight, ... 3/9½
Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight, 3/9½

On PARIS,—
Bank Bills, on demand, 4.69
Credits, at 4 months' sight, ... 4.81

On BOMBAY,—
Bank, T.T., 223½

On CALCUTTA,—
Bank, T.T., 223½

On SHANGHAI,—
Bank, T.T., 73
Private, 30 days' sight, 73½

Hongkong Temperature

(Taken at Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Register, Queen's-road.)

HONGKONG, 4th & 5th Oct. 1881.
BAROMETER—1 P.M. 29.990
Do. 4 P.M. 29.982

THERMOMETER—1 P.M. 77.
Do. 4 P.M. 76.
Do. 1 P.M. (Wet bulb) 75.
Do. 4 P.M. Do. 75.

BAROMETER—9 A.M. 30.072
THERMOMETER—9 A.M. 78.
Do. 9 A.M. (Wet bulb) 76.
Do. Maximum 78.
Do. Minimum (over night) 77.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Oct. 4, *Chuang Hock Kian*, British str., 953, Webb, put back, 4th October, General.—Ban Hin & Co.

Oct. 5, *Wega*, German ship, 1,115, A. Leopold, Cardiff 20th August, Coals.—Melchers & Co.

Oct. 5, *Fleur Castle*, British steamer, 2,244, J. B. Thomson, London 21st Aug., and Singapore 27th Sept., General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Oct. 5, *Helicon*, American ship, 1,199, Howe, Cardiff 1st June, Coals.—Captain.

Oct. 5, *Miramar*, British steamer, 880, J. M. Clarke, Swatow 4th Oct., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Oct. 5, *Namoa*, British steamer, 862, Westoby, Coast ports 4th Oct., General.—D. Lapraik & Co.

Oct. 5, *Eryn*, Danish steamer, 209, L. C. Grove, Nagasaki 29th Sept., General.—Siemsson & Co.

Oct. 5, *City of Peking*, American str., 5,078, San Francisco 6th Sept., and Yokohama 29th, General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Oct. 4, *Nona*, German steamer, 669, W. Woodell, Mantung 28th Sept., Salt.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.

Oct. 5, *Keelung*, British steamer, from Canton.

DEPARTURES.

Oct. 5, *Emay*, Spanish steamer, for Manila.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Namoa*, British steamer, from Coast ports, Mr. Neilsen and 241 Chinese.

Per *Miramar*, British steamer, from Swatow, Mr. Neler, and 453 Chinese.

Per *City of Peking*, American str., from San Francisco, Mrs. F. E. Foster and 2 children and nurse, Captain A. Benning, and 500 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The American steamer, *City of Peking*, from San Francisco, reports fine weather and fresh N.E. winds in the Formosa Channel.

Per *Miramar*, British steamer, from Swatow, reports had strong N.E. winds, heavy sea and overcast sky.

The German steamer *Nona*, from Mantung, reports had strong northerly and N.E. winds and nasty sea.

Per *Wega*, German ship, from Cardiff, reports heavy gales from the southward with a fearful sea up from the north during for last 4 days.

The British steamer *Namoa*, from Coast ports, reports left Foochow on the 2nd inst., Annoy 3rd, and Swatow 4th, and experienced fresh N.E. winds with high sea and throughout the passage.

In Foochow, str. *Meifoo*; passed the str. *Kwangtung*, and *Meath* bound in; in Amoy, str. *Yoo-sin*, *Al-bay*, *Polein*, and *Ohina*; *Craiglands* and *Tamsui* left same day. In Swatow, str. *Wenchow*; *Miramar* left same day.

MacEWEN FRICKEL & Co.

GENERAL STOREKEEPERS, &c.
HAVE FOR SALE.

Groceries.
Crosse & Blackwell's, Celebrated Household Stores.
John Moir & Sons', Celebrated Household Stores.

American Stores of all descriptions.
Huntley & Palmer's BISCUITS & CAKES,
BUTTER Danish & French, Philippe

& Canada's PATES &c.,
CHUTNIES & CURRY
POWDER, TRYSSONEAU'S
FRUITS in juice.

COFFEE, SUGAR, &c. &c.
Wines, Spirits, &c.
CUTLER PALMER & Co.'s "CARTE
BLANCHE" HEDSLO & Co.'s MO-

NOPOLE, pts. and qts. ADOLPHE
COLLIN'S BOUZY CABINET.
MUMM'S (JULES) CHAMPAGNE

pts. and qts.
NEYEN'S (BODEN) BOUZY,
pts. and qts.

EXTRA SEC. quarts.
Charles Heidsieck's WHITE SEAL,
pts. and qts. VEUVE CLICQUOT PON-

SARDIN, pts. and qts. Theophile. Roederer & Co.'s VERZENAY MOUSSEUX,
pts. and qts.

Krug's CHAMPAGNE, pts. and qts.

CUTLER PALMER & Co.'s CHAT-
EAU MOUTON. LORMONT, pints,
and quarts.

ARAUZAN (Chateau), pints and quarts.
ERMITAGE LUDON. THIBGEUF
(Chateau), pints and quarts.

CHATEAU LAROSE (Curcier & Adet's),
pints and quarts.

CHATEAU LARITE, pints and quarts.
IRES GRAVES, pints and quarts.
BREAKFAST CLARET, pints & quarts.
OLD INVALID CLARET.

St. JULIEN, &c., &c. Breakfast Claret.

Burgundy, Hock, Sherries, &c.
Chamberlain, Chablis (White), Liebfrau-
milch, Hockheimer, Niersteiner, Stein-
berger Cabinet, Rudesheimer

Berg, Konin Victoria Berg,
Chateau Yquem, Grand
Vin, Haut Sauterne

Marsala, Saecone's
Pale Dry White Seal Sherry, Yellow Seal
Amontillado Sherry, Cutler Palmer
and Co.'s Sherry, Invalid
Port (1848), Hunt's Port.

Brandy, Whisky, Liqueurs, &c.
1, 2 and 3-star Hennessy's Brandy,
La Grande Marque Brandy,
Cutler Palmer & Co.'s

Brandy, J. J. Guillet & Co.'s Brandy,
1 to 4 stars; Finest Old Bourbon
Whisky, highly recommended,
Kinahan's LL Irish Whisky,
Jameson's Irish

Whisky, Royal Glendee
Whisky; AVH Gin, Swaine
Boord & Co.'s Old Tom

Gin; La Grande Chartreuse, Green
and Yellow, Maraschino de Zara, Curacao
pints and quarts; Angostura,
Boker's and Orange Bitters,
&c., &c., &c.

BASS'S ALE, bottled by Cameron and
Saunders, pints and quarts.

GUINNESS'S STOUT, bottled by E &
J. Burke, pints and quarts.

PILSENER BEER, in quarts.

DRAUGHT ALE and PORTER, by
the Gallon.

Fine ALE, bottled by MacEwen, Frickel
& Co. ALE and PORTER, in hogheads.

Aerated Waters.
SODA WATER,
LEMONADE,
TONIC WATER.

SARSAPARILLA,
&c., &c., &c.

The Finest Stocks of
CIGARS, CAVITE CHEROOTS,
PRINCESA CHEROOTS,

PRINCESA CIGARS, AROCEROS,
VEGUEROS,
&c., &c.

"PERFECTION" All Specially
Selected.

EMPRESS OF INDIA, and Best NAVY.
STATIONERY, BOOKS &c.

"Franklin Square" Library,
"Seaside" Library,
Harper's Half-hour Series.

French Novels.
Medical Works.
School Books.

Presentation Books.
Works of reference &c.
Stationery for Ladies, and Office use.

Direct from the manufacturers the best
and Cheapest in Hongkong.

Special orders in this line executed on
very moderate terms.

Papers ruled to any pattern and stamped.
Plain, cameo or relief.

Dies engraved to order. Office requisites
of every description.

Milner's Fire Proof Safes, Cash and Deed
Boxes, Brushware.
Cutlery, Crockery, and Glassware.
Builder's Hardware material, Sporting
Guns, Revolvers and Sporting
ammunition.
Sailmaking and Rigging promptly ex-
ecuted.

